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Title:

Comments: I'm writing to object to the NFS's draft proposal to limit the maintenance and addition of new fixed anchors on climbing routes by requiring that a Forest Supervisor determine anchor appropriateness on a case specific basis. I have been a climber for more than a decade, and am currently a member of both the Access Fund and the American Alpine Club. Fixed anchors make climbing vastly safer and make the wilderness accessible to a broader range of people. Restricting the use of fixed anchors will severely curtail the ability of many individuals to climb in the wilderness and will result in increased accidents and injuries for others - which will likely increase the burden on the NFS. I also do not think it is reasonable to have the NFS perform case-by-case analysis in order to maintain or establish new fixed anchors; the NFS does not have the resources to do this, and it will result in a less safe situation for recreational climbers.